



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland

Forest Service News Release

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Prescribed burning planned for Northeast Sierra Madre Range this fall

SARATOGA, Wyo., October 8, 2021 — In coming weeks, Medicine Bow National Forest fire personnel are hoping to conduct prescribed burns in the northwest portion of the Sierra Madre Range. The targeted burns will improve vegetation conditions and wildlife habitat, as well as reduce fire danger by mitigating fuel loading to reduce future fire hazard.

Primary burn units this fall include approximately 430 acres near Forest Roads 435 and 456, between Jack Creek Campground and the Forest boundary. These operations are part of the Divide Peak Prescribed Burn Project. Located on the northern end of the Sierra Madres in Carbon Co., Wyo., this project area is nearly 1,600 acres and includes multiple years of spring/fall burning.

The burn units are located on National Forest System lands managed by the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District (BCH), approximately 18 miles southwest of Saratoga, Wyo. Smoke from the prescribed fires will likely be visible from the Baggs, Wyo. and Saratoga areas.

Daily decisions to burn will be dependent on fuel and weather condition alignment. For the most up-to-date information pertaining to exact dates, times and locations, follow the Medicine Bow National Forest official social media pages: [@FS_MBRTB](#) on Twitter or [@FSMBRTB](#) on Facebook.

The burn units are composed mainly of conifer encroached aspen stands consisting of Lodgepole Pine, Engelmann Spruce and Subalpine Fir mix. Fire behavior models will be used to determine the needed organization to safely complete the burns. The fires are expected to burn in a mosaic pattern. Short-term closures during operations may be necessary on adjacent Forest roads.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service fire crews will monitor the burn areas until all fires are completely out. Staff will primarily use drip torches to carry out the burning. Necessary smoke permits will be obtained from the State of Wyoming and adhered to throughout the project.

For more information about this project contact Jerod DeLay, Acting Zone Fire Management Officer, at (307) 745-2497 or Blake Creagan, Acting Zone Assistant Fire Management Officer - Operations, at (307) 250-8687. More information can also be found on our [website](#) or social media channels: [@FS_MBRTB](#) on Twitter or [@FSMBRTB](#) on Facebook.

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